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On the Record

Prevent Drug Abuse

8-cent postage stamp
issued Oct. 4, 1971
at Dallas, Texas

By Belmont Faries



The 8-cent Prevent Drug Abuse stamp of 1971 apparently was inspired by a poster prepared late in 1970 by K. Gardner Perine, chief of the Graphics Section of the Treasury Department's Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs.

It was a black ink line drawing of a girl hunched over in an attitude of despair used within the Bureau as a directional poster.

Later, when Mrs. Frankie Braxton came to Perine and suggested "it would be a great idea if we had a stamp", he agreed and turned his art over to Mrs. Suzanne Rice of his staff who provided the lettering for two rough layouts.

The suggestion went up through channels and a formal request for a stamp to reflect concern about drug abuse reached Postmaster General Winton M. Blount in time to be included on the agenda of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee for its meeting of Feb. 26, 1971 at President Nixon's "Western White House" at San Clemente, Calif. The committee held the

design "to be considered for possible use".

High level consideration came quickly. Mr. Blount had been personally concerned with the drug abuse problem because of the impact of narcotics on the mails. Drug traffic through the mails had been increasing, as was mail theft by drug addicts.

At the White House level President Nixon was reported to be concerned with drug abuse as a growing national problem. The Postal Service later quoted him as saying "Hundreds of thousands of Americans — young and old alike — endanger their health through the inappropriate use of drugs of all kinds. More than 100,000 of these Americans lead totally unproductive lives because of their addiction to narcotics." The White House staff was busy with plans to set up a "Special Action Office of Drug Abuse Prevention" within the Executive Office and with a director responsible to the President. This would require Congressional ap-



The original Perine sketch

proval, but as a first step Dr. Jerome H. Jaffe, former director of drug abuse programs in Illinois, was to be named a special consultant to the President.

Against this background, Postmaster General Blount on April 18, 1971 announced that a stamp would be issued during the year to focus attention on drug addiction, adding that he hoped it would "make the public more aware that drug addiction is an increasing menace to society; that the lives it ruins — and takes — is a serious concern for every American."

The Perine design was not finished art and was obviously unusable except for the despondent figure of the girl. Advisory Committee Chairman Stevan Dohanos turned it over to a young Westport, Conn., artist, 25-year-old Miggs Burroughs, as a suggestion for finished art work.

Burroughs posed his girl friend,



Miggs Burroughs and his model, Mimi Orkin.

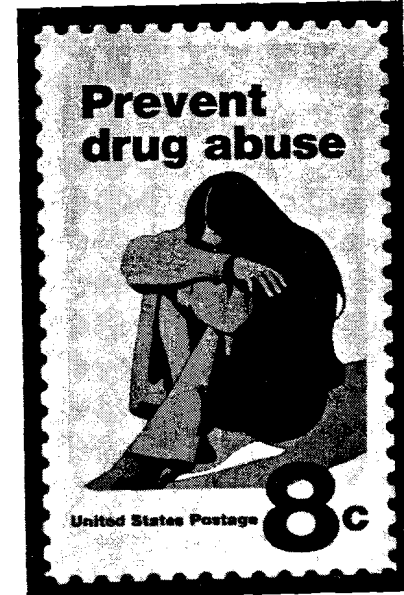


Stamp designs suggested by the Bureau of Narcotics.

Mimi Orkin, a 23-year-old fashion artist, in a seated position differing slightly from the Perine sketch and completed a design with lettering using only two shades of blue and black.

The original art was sent to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing on May 4 with instructions to proceed with procurement of cylinders for gravure printing on the Andreotti press. A model was approved by William D. Dunlap, deputy special assistant to the Postmaster General, on May 12 and a proof from gravure test cylinders on June 29. The Bureau was given an order to print 130 million stamps.

The design was released for newspapers of Sunday, Aug. 1 with the information that the stamp would be issued on Oct. 5, during a proposed Drug Abuse Prevention Week, at Dallas, Texas, site of a regional office of the Bureau of Narcotics and Drug Abuse.



The approved model.

Stamp Production

Six gravure cylinders for the Andreotti press were prepared by Inta-Roto, Inc., two light blue, 33064 and 33067, two medium blue, 33065 and 33068, and two black, 33066 and 33069.

All were certified on July 19 and 33064, 33065 and 33066 were sent to press the same day for a run totaling 459,900 sheets of 200 or 91,980,000 stamps.

The other three cylinders, 33067 33068 and 33069, were sent to press on July 22 for a run of 499,400 sheets or 99,880,000 stamps. Printing was completed the same day with a total of 959,300 sheets or 191,860,000 stamps.

The Bureau's initial shipment was made on Sept. 17. By the time the last of its stocks were cleared out on Jan. 16, 1973 a total of 139,080,000 stamps had been delivered to post offices and the Philatelic Sales Division, where the stamps remained on sale until May 31, 1973. All cylinders were canceled on Oct. 13, 1972.

First Day Ceremonies

Because of Postmaster General Blount's travel plans a last-minute change was made in the date of the Prevent Drug Abuse first day ceremony, moving it up from Oct. 5 to Oct. 4.

The 11 a.m. program in the ballroom of the Baker Hotel in Dallas followed the traditional pattern — music by the Lackland Air Force Base Band of the West, presentation of the colors by a squad from the Dallas Naval Air Station, an invocation, a welcome by the Dallas postmaster, remarks by the regional director of the Bureau of Narcotics and by Dr. Jaffee, director of President Nixon's Special

Action Office for Drug Abuse Prevention.

It was Postmaster General Blount's talk that made the front pages of metropolitan newspapers with its call for a boycott against French goods until France made greater efforts to halt the heroin traffic centered in Marseilles.

"Why should the American people buy French goods when an estimated 80 per cent of the heroin that finds its way into this country and into the bloodstreams of our young still comes from France?" Mr. Blount asked.

"There is no reason why the individual American citizen cannot have a role in the war against the international drug traffic," he added.

"We need to prod France vigorously. If the American people decided to boycott French goods until the cost of the boycott exceeded the benefits of the drug traffic out of Marseilles, then greater effort might be taken to end that traffic."

In Paris the U. S. Embassy said Mr. Blount's statement was "totally contrary" to the Nixon administration's views. A White House spokesman said he had called the U. S. Ambassador to France, Arthur K. Watson, to make sure there was no confusion between Blount's statements and the administration position.

The embassy noted that Mr. Blount was no longer a member of the President's Cabinet, a position he lost when the Postal Service had been inaugurated as an independent executive agency on July 1.

High public officials with as much political experience as Mr. Blount do not go off half-cocked with statements as bizarre and po-



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

Handstamp first day cancel.



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

Machine first day cancel.

tentially damaging to international relations as this.

In Washington three possible explanations were offered.

The first was that Mr. Blount, who was rumored to be planning to run for the Senate from Alabama in 1972, was taking what promised to be a popular position for the national publicity it would give him.

The second was that he had taken sides in a bull-in-the-china shop way in the quiet dispute between the Bureau of Narcotics, which was strongly critical of the French, and the State Department, which was defending French efforts.

Neither explanation satisfied observers who knew Mr. Blount. He was not the sort of politician who would embarrass the President he had worked for and with, and whose help he would need. Although he had sharply reduced Congressional influence in the new Postal Service, he had not cut his close ties with the White House, and Mr. Nixon's drug abuse ad-

visor was on the platform with him.

This left the third and generally accepted explanation that Mr. Blount had done exactly what the White House wanted him to do, giving a strong public warning to the French on the Marseilles situation that could not be given officially. Since he was no longer a Cabinet officer, and would be resigning as postmaster general in a few weeks, he was ideally fitted for an assignment that required "deniability." Formal White House support for the State Department's position could do him no harm.

Whatever the real story behind the speech, there can be no doubt that it focused public attention on the drug abuse problem and the "French connection" in a way that the stamp alone could never have done.

The Postal Service later reported that there were 425,330 first day cancellations at Dallas and that stamps valued at \$58,927.71 were sold in connection with the first day.



Upper left corner of the upper right pane showing color registration ladder at top and pane separation cross in margin to the left of the Mr. Zip cartoon.

Philatelic Data

Eight-cent blue and black, .84 by 1.44 inches, on a white wove surfaced paper.

Gravure printed from etched cylinders on gummed rolls of paper by the Andreotti press using three printing cylinders for light blue, medium blue and black and a fourth cylinder for phosphor tagging.

Perforated 10½ by 11 on the Bureau's electric eye equipment, sheeted and divided into post office panes of 50.

Marginal markings on post office panes include the walking version of the Mr. Zip cartoon in black in the wide top or bottom margin above or below the right or left horizontal row of stamps, and the "MAIL EARLY / IN THE DAY" slogan in black above or below the fourth row of stamps from right or left.

There are three cylinder numbers above or below a vertical row

of stamps in the order, from right or left, light blue, medium blue and black. Only two sets of cylinders, 33064-66 and 33067-69, were used.

Electric eye frame bars appear in black in the wide bottom margin of the two lower panes and electric eye dashes in the narrow lower margin of upper panes and upper margin of lower panes.

Fincor marks or wedges in each of the three colors appear in the upper margin of the upper left pane in the same order as and above the cylinder numbers. These are guides for electronic registration controls to adjust the web for slippage either sideways or along the web.

In addition a color registration ladder of the type first used with the 8-cent Postal Service stamp appears in the margin of the upper right pane over the third and fourth stamp from the left. The ladder, laid down by the light blue cylinder, has rectangular spaces

filled with the successive medium blue and black cylinders. These are targets for a visual checking system for both registration and missing colors.

A black horizontal bar in the wide margins marks the spot where the sheets are cut. This is used for manually adjusting rolls into the perforating machines. A small cross in all three colors, one on top of the other, is placed at the mid-point of the sheet margin at the point at which panes are separated.

Panes have been found without

phosphor tagging but no major errors have been reported.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

For the account of Gardner Perine's role and the illustration of his original art we are indebted to Travis Hedrick, Washington correspondent of Western Stamp Collector.

Details on the Miggs Burroughs design and the photograph of Burroughs and his model were provided by Dick Hardie, in 1971 editor of National Stamp News.

U.S. Covers Only, are sold 3 times a year in unreserved Public Auctions. Incl. are Postal History, from Stampless to Rockets, Territorials, Western, Express, Autographs, Civil War Patriotics, Confederates, Possessions, Early F.D.C. before 1934, early A.M. Flight, Zepps, etc. Illustrated catalogs \$1.00. Enclose #10 S.A.S.E. for prices realized. The above sent on approval, against want lists, and references only. Cover collections purchased, or can be included in a future auction.

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L A V A

Box 1

New York 10040

POSTAGE STAMP DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY REPORT

TITLE Prevent Drug Abuse Commemorative Postage Stamp			DENOMINATION 8¢	SERIES 1971
ORDER NUMBER 1517	ORDER DATE 5-4-71	ORDERED BY (Name and Title) D. B. Moler, Acting Chief, Acc't Paper Branch		
DESIGNER Miggs Burroughs		MODELER None		
MODEL APPROVED BY (Name and Title) William D. Dunlap, Deputy, Special Assistant				DATE 5-12-71
SOURCE OF ORIGINAL DESIGN (Photograph, Painting, etc.) Original art work with lettering by Miggs Burrough				

Engraved by Inta-Roto Inc. Richmond, VA
VIGNETTE OR PORTRAIT ENGRAVERS LETTERING ENGRAVERS

TYPE <input type="checkbox"/> DIE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CYLINDER	DATE PROOF APPROVED 6-29-71	STAMP SIZE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VERT. <input type="checkbox"/> HORIZ.	PAPER White, Gummed LP-18-6	SUBJECTS PRINT SIZE DEL'D SIZE 200 50	
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PLATE NUMBER	PRESS	DATE CERTIFIED	1ST DATE TO PRESS	DATE CANCELED	IMPRESSIONS PRINTED	INK COLOR
33064	Gravure	7-19-71	7-19-71	10-13-72	459,900	Lt. Blue
33065		7-19-71	7-19-71	10-13-72	459,900	Med. Blue
33066		7-19-71	7-19-71	10-13-72	459,900	Black
33067		7-19-71	7-22-71	10-13-72	499,400	Lt. Blue
33068		7-19-71	7-22-71	10-13-72	499,400	Med. Blue
33069		7-19-71	7-22-71	10-13-72	499,400	Black
ORDER TO PRINT	1ST PRINT DATE	LAST PRINT DATE	DATE AND PLACE OF 1ST DAY SALE	DATE AND PLACE OF 1ST DELIVERY		
5-4-71	7-19-71	7-22-71	10-5-71 Dallas, TX	9-17-71		

STAMPS ORDERED 130,000,000	STAMPS PRINTED 191,860,000	STAMPS DELIVERED 1,505,000 Philatelic 139,080,000 Total Delivered
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Last Shipment From Bureau 1-16-73 5,000

P-37

First Day of Issue Statistics:

1971

	<u>Stamps Sold</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Covers Cancelled</u>
Bowling Envelope	360,242	\$36,024.20	267,029
American Poet Series	824,578	65,966.24	498,180
San Juan	647,548	51,403.84	501,668
American Hospital Postal Card	267,019	16,021.14	218,200
<u>Drug Abuse</u>	764,675	58,927.71	425,330
CARE	1,163,924	93,113.92	402,121
Historic Preservation	2,230,782	178,478.56	783,242
Christmas - "Nativity"	679,240	54,339.20	348,038
Christmas - "Partridge"	635,527	50,842.16	580,062
White House Conference on Aging	250,000	25,000.00	125,000

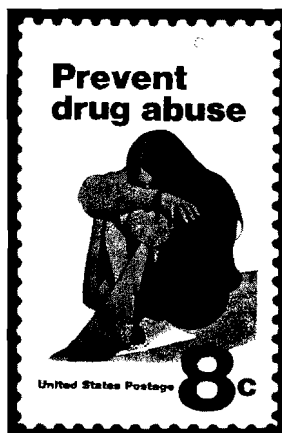
1972

Eisenhower Booklet	1,038,771	83,001.68	181,601
American Poet Series	552,097	44,167.76	394,800
Peace Corps	637,475	50,998.00	453,660
National Parks - "Yellowstone"	1,212,903	97,032.24	847,500
Family Planning	1,092,903	55,310.80	691,385
LaGuardia	442,404	59,136.56	180,114

PHILATELIC

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE
OCTOBER 5, 1971
DALLAS, TEXAS

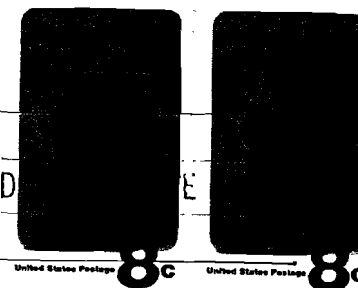
DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION WEEK



20th ANNIVERSARY OF
MEDICAL SUBJECTS UNIT
AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION
1952-1972

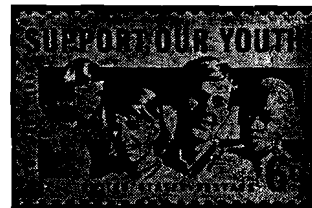
SCALPEL & TONGS

JOURNAL OF MEDICAL PHILATELY



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from the future...



THE S.P.A.'S JUNIOR MEMBERS

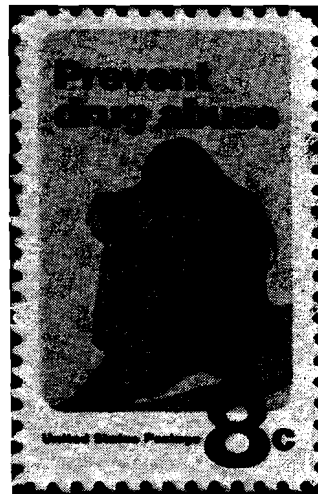
David R. Halaas, Editor and Junior Members Representative
1514 East Minnehaha Parkway
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55417

A GUEST EDITORIAL

Ever since the Prevent Drug Abuse stamp went on sale in Dallas last October 4, there has been much controversy over its issuance. Some philatelists, and non-philatelists, are very angry because in their opinion the stamp portrays a negative image of America. It is my feeling that there should be many more "public service" stamps. J. T. Ellington, Jr., director of communications and public affairs of the USPS, promises there will be more emphasis on "public service" stamps in the future.

Kenneth A. Wood, the editor of Western Stamp Collector, expressed my personal feelings very well in an editorial entitled "Why Not Public Service Stamps," which appeared in his November 27 issue. Here, with Mr. Wood's permission, is his editorial in full:

A good example of the impact the recent Drug Abuse stamp has had on those concerned with one of the most serious of our current domestic problems is offered by the action of a WSC reader.



The reader, Howard G. Staples, of Edina, Minnesota, has taken a stamp transmitting a strong message, and used it as the focal point of his own personal campaign to bring home to young people the fact that they cannot postpone growing up by the suicidal use of dope.

He uses the stamp in conjunction with a "Fact Sheet", which contains simple, graphic, easily understood statements giving the

Postage stamps occupy a singular place in the modern history of mankind. In diminutive graphics, they have mirrored the significant events of the day. They have told us of man's finest hours; his worst tragedies. They have shared with us man's great dreams of the past; his ambitious hopes for the future. Throughout all, they have reflected that elusive, but very real spirit of man to rise above self and circumstance.

We are gathered here today to commemorate yet another postage stamp. And it is both a sad and happy occasion. Sad because this stamp was born in tragedy; happy because this stamp will help rekindle in our citizens a firm resolve that those forces which debilitate and degrade man have no place in our society. It would be my wish that we not just commemorate this stamp, but dedicate ourselves to that purpose.

*John E. Ingersoll, Director
Bureau of Narcotics and
Dangerous Drugs
U.S. Department of Justice*

Prevent Drug Abuse

STAMP
CEREMONY
DALLAS, TEXAS

OCTOBER 4, 1971

Program

<i>Musical Selections</i>	<i>Band of the West Lackland Air Force Base San Antonio, Texas Sergeant William Rhye, Conductor</i>
<i>Presentation of Colors</i>	<i>U.S. Naval Air Station Dallas, Texas Captain Louis J. Muery Commanding Officer</i>
<i>Invocation</i>	<i>Rev. Louis A. Saunders, Executive Director Dallas Council of Churches</i>
<i>Master of Ceremonies</i>	<i>Warren Woodward, Chairman Dallas Chamber of Commerce</i>
<i>Welcome</i>	<i>H. G. Wrigge Postmaster, Dallas, Texas</i>
<i>Remarks</i>	<i>Charles Karadimos, Regional Director Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs</i>
<i>Remarks</i>	<i>Dr. Jerome Jaffee, Director Special Action Office for Drug Abuse Prevention</i>
<i>Address and Presentation of Albums</i>	<i>Honorable Winton M. Blount Postmaster General of the United States</i>
<i>Benediction</i>	<i>Reverend J. D. Mooring, Pastor Warren United Methodist Church</i>
<i>Retirement of Colors</i>	

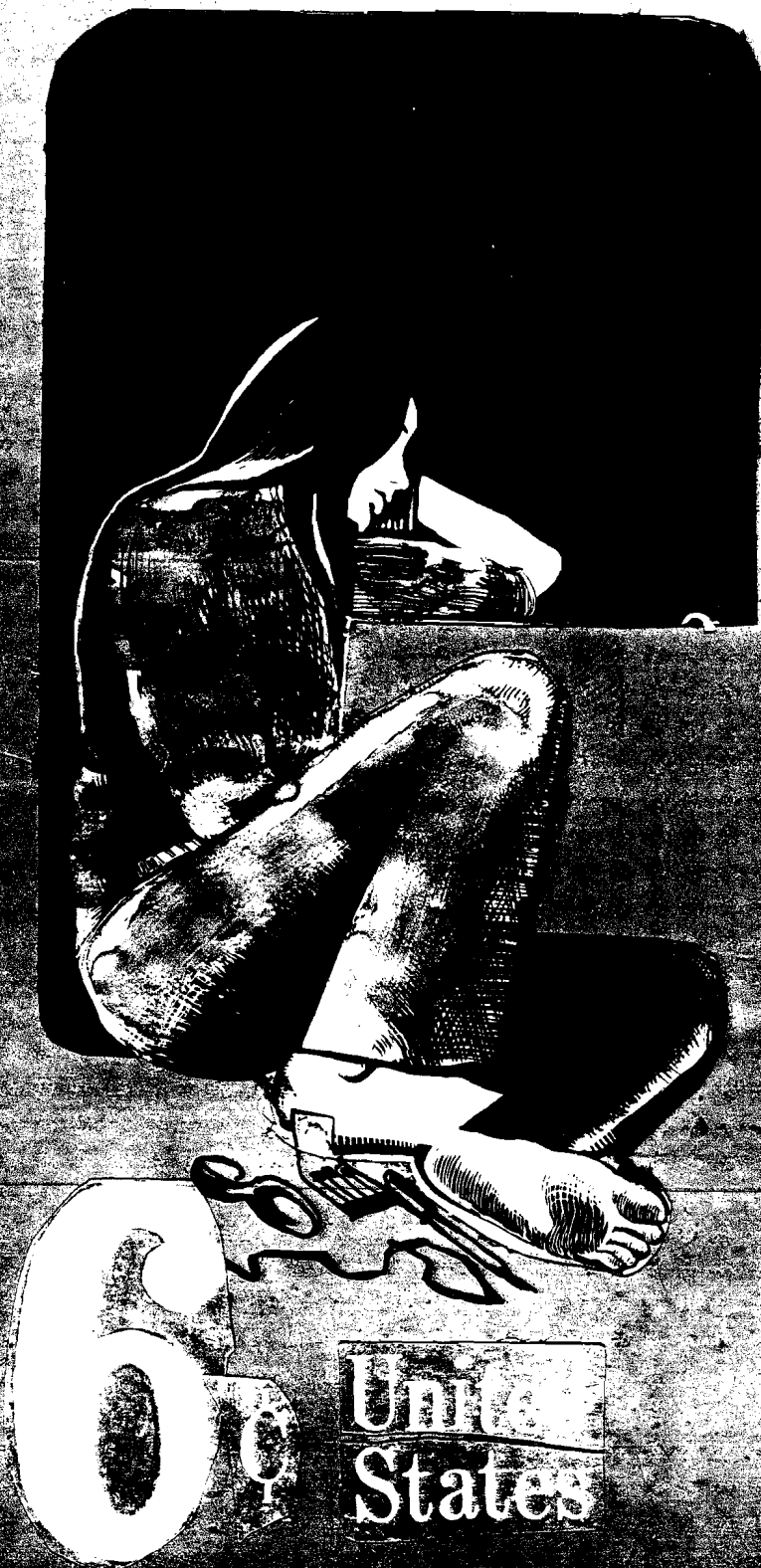
Monday, October 4, 1971—11 a.m.
Grand Ballroom—Baker Hotel
Dallas, Texas

Drug misuse is a growing national problem. Hundreds of thousands of Americans—young and old alike—endanger their health through the inappropriate use of drugs of all kinds. More than 100,000 of these lead totally unproductive lives because of their addiction to narcotics.

*Richard Nixon
President of the United States*

We hope this stamp will make the public more aware that drug addiction is a menace to every community; that the lives it ruins—and takes—is a serious concern for every American.

*Winton M. Blount
Postmaster General of the United States*



60

United States

PREVENT DRUG

ABUSE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



PREVENT DRUG ABUSE



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

✓

Prevent drug abuse



United States Postage

8c

UPI PHOTO
UPI TELEPHOTO asp/ho
one with a drug dependence problem, in darker blue and black.
it on a foggy blue background is the figure of a young girl, depicting the loneliness and
critical 8-cent stamp was designed by Midge Berroughs, a young contemporary artist of Westport
of first day issue coincides with the proposed Drug Abuse Prevention Week. October
be issued October 5, at Dallas, Texas, Postmaster General Winton Blount announced
of 3008-0/1/71. Washington Post is a commemorative stamp to focus attention on prevention

information



For further information call:
202 - 961-7488

FOR RELEASE THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 23, 1971

PHILATELIC RELEASE NO. 80

Postmaster General Winton M. Blount announced today that the postage stamp to focus attention on the prevention of drug abuse will be issued at Dallas, Texas on October 4 rather than October 5 as originally scheduled.

First day ceremonies, which will be open to the general public, will be held in the Grand Ballroom of the Baker Hotel at 11:00 A.M. Postmaster General Winton M. Blount will dedicate the new stamp with officials of the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs. President Nixon has proclaimed the week of October 3 to 9 as Drug Abuse Prevention Week to focus attention on this major problem.

A temporary postal station will be set up on the mezzanine of the hotel for first day stamp sales and cancellations.

Collectors desiring first day covers may send envelopes together with the remittance for the stamps to be affixed to the Postmaster, Dallas, Texas 75221. Requests postmarked on the originally announced date will be honored.

information



For further information call:
(202) 961-8656

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1971

GENERAL RELEASE NO. 104

DALLAS -- Postmaster General Winton M. Blount, warning that drug abuse has reached a critical stage, called on the American people to institute a boycott of all French goods in an effort to force French authorities to take more effective action against the flow of heroin into the United States.

"There is no reason why the individual American citizen cannot have a role in the war against the international drug traffic," Blount said. "Why should the American people buy French goods when an estimated 80% of the heroin which finds its way into this country and into the bloodstreams of our young still comes from France?"

"If the American people decided to boycott French goods and did so until the cost of the boycott exceeded the benefits of the drug traffic out of Marseille, then greater efforts might be taken to end that traffic," he said. Noting that drug abuse is a problem which cannot be left to the federal government alone, the Postmaster General suggested a boycott as something citizens can do on their own to combat the problem.

Mr. Blount's comments on the trafficking in narcotics came during a ceremony in which he dedicated a new postal stamp designed to draw attention to America's drug problem.

He particularly focused on France as being a major source of illegal heroin for the big-time international narcotics peddlers.

(more)

CONTENTS OF
MELLONE'S FIRST DAY COVER
PHOTO ENCYCLOPEDIA OF
FIRST CACHETS REVEALED
RE U.S. SCOTT NO. 1438

Mellone's

Vol. 4

*First Day Cover
Photo Encyclopedia of*

First Cachets

— Revealed — 

by

**Richard A. Monty
Wendy L. Doyle
Mark W. Goodson
Norman L. Elrod**

**Limited
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printing**

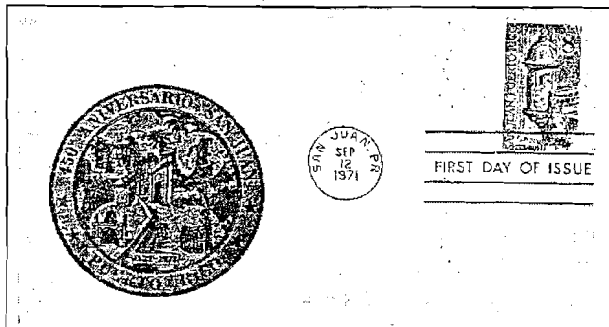
Sc. 1387 - 1802 / C79 - C97
J102 - J103 / U554 - U596 / UC50
UX57 - UX81 / UXC12 - UXC17
UY25 - UY26

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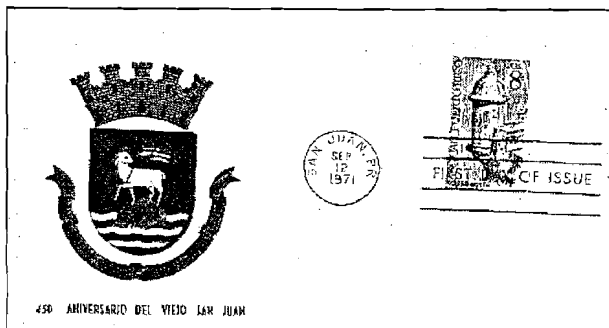
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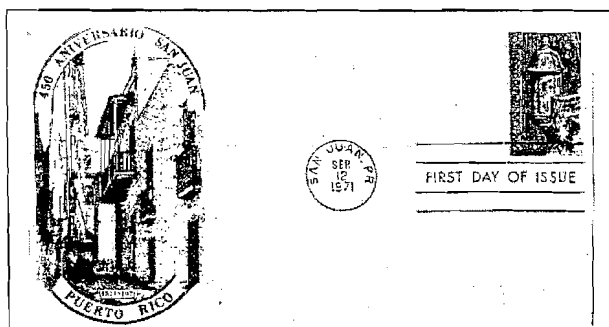
—1437—
9/12/1971



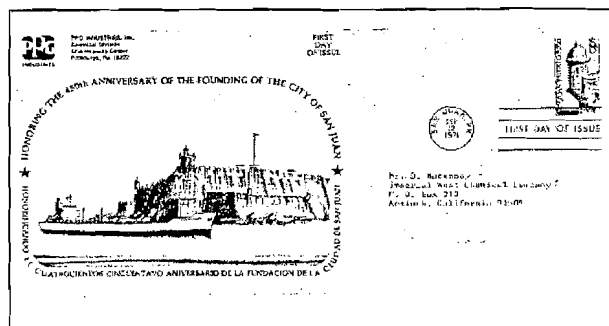
- ☐ 1437-A (1437-A,B) \$10.00
Don Carlos Stamps (Miguel Alvarez, Sr.),
9/12/1971, 2 uns. des. for first.



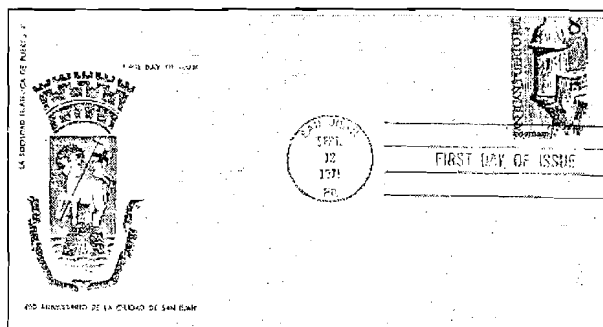
- ☐ 1437-B (1437-A,B) \$10.00
Don Carlos Stamps (Miguel Alvarez, Sr.),
9/12/1971, 2 uns. des. for first.



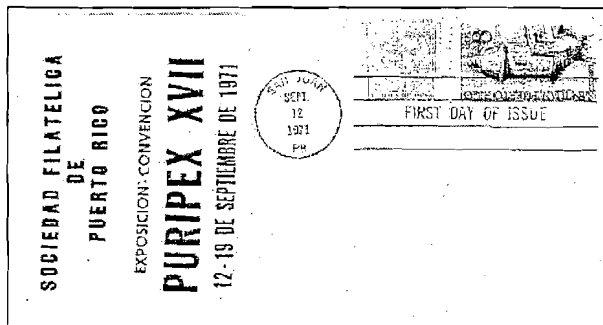
- ☐ 1437-C \$10.00
Fisher-Stevens, Inc., 9/12/1971, Uns., signed
stuffer enc. [One time]



- ☐ 1437-D \$10.00
PPG Industries, Inc., 9/12/1977, Signed w/corner
card, stuffer enc., 4 3/4 x 11 env. [One time]

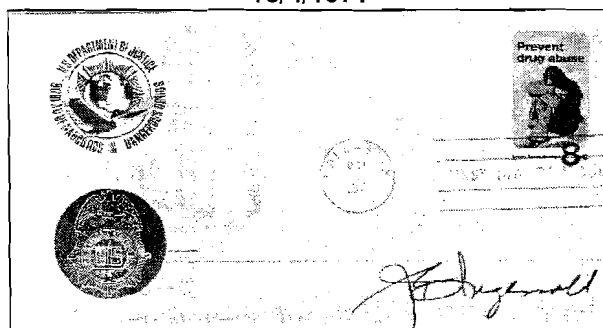


- ☐ 1437-E (1437-E,F) \$10.00
Puerto Rico Philatelic Society, 9/12/1971, 2 des
for first signed La Sociedad Filatelica de Puerto
Rico.

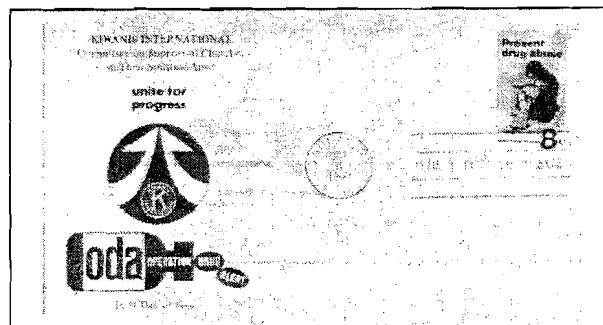


- ☐ 1437-F (1437-E,F) \$10.00
Puerto Rico Philatelic Society, 9/12/1971, 2 des
for first signed La Sociedad Filatelica de Puerto
Rico.

—1438—
10/4/1971



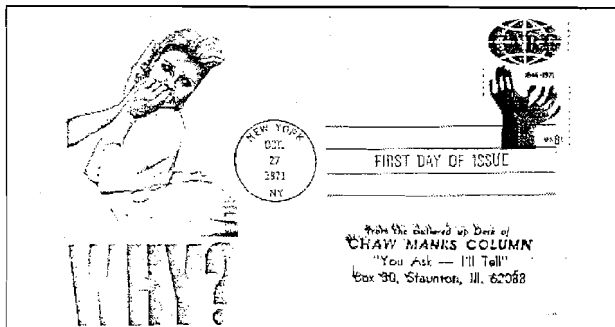
- ☐ 1438-A \$15.00
U. S. Department of Justice Bureau of Narcotics
& Dangerous Drugs, 10/4/1971, F/S



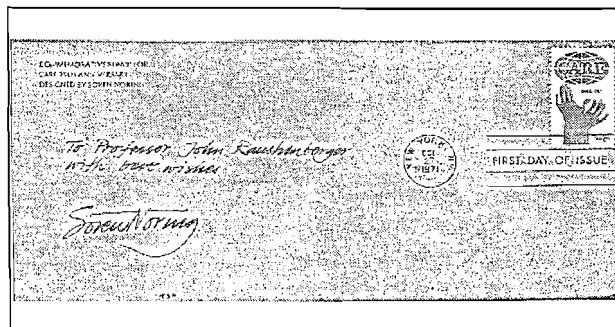
- ☐ 1438-B \$10.00

Kiwanis Internatinal Committee on Support of Churches in Their Spiritual Aims, 10/4/1971,
Signed, signed stuffer enc. [One time]

—1439—
10/27/1971

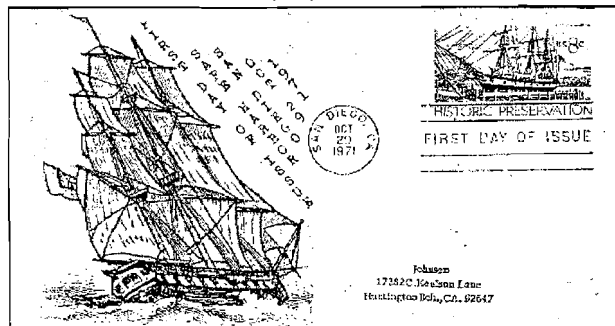


□ 1439-A \$10.00
Chaw Manks Column, 10/27/1971, F/S



□ 1439-B \$10.00
Noring, Soren, 10/27/1971, Signed #10 env. [One time]

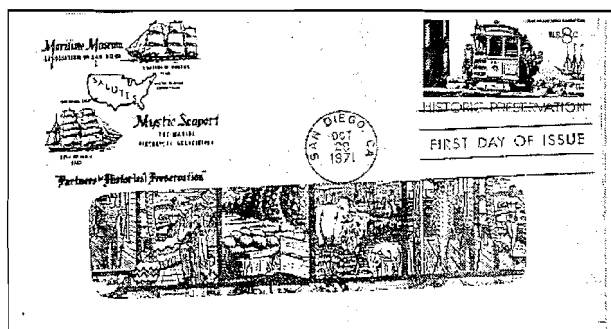
—1440-1443—
10/29/1971



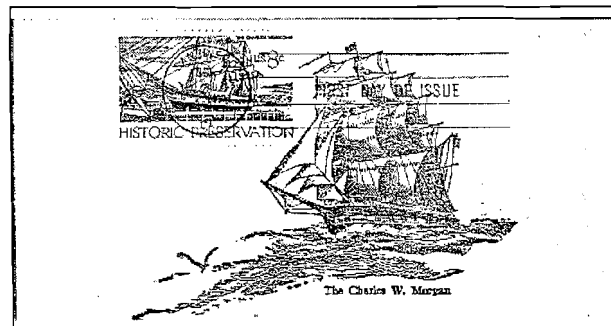
□ 1440-1443-A \$10.00
Johnsen, Dr. Jerry, 10/29/1971, F/S w/R/S addr., only seen with 1441. [1472]



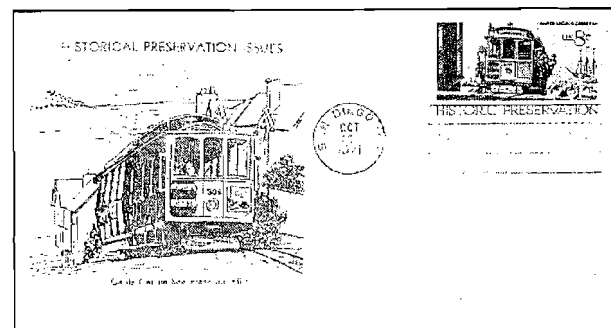
□ 1440-1443-B (1440-1443-B,C) \$10.00
Maritime Museum Association of San Diego, 10/29/1971, 2 signed des. only seen with 1441 & 1442. [One time]



□ 1440-1443-C (1440-1443-B,C) \$10.00
Maritime Museum Association of San Diego, 10/29/1971, 2 signed des. only seen with 1441 & 1442. [One time]



□ 1440-1443-D \$10.00
New Bedford Free Public Library, 10/29/1971, F/S on rev. of card, only seen with 1441. [One time]



□ 1440-1443-E \$10.00
JSS, 10/29/1971, F/S, only seen with 1442.